

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LOME

AFDROUGHT

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TAGS:

SUBJ: STORED GRAIN INFESTATION AND SPOILAGE

1. RECENT INCIDENCES OF PROBLEMS IN GRAIN INFESTATION AND SPOILAGE AFFECTING DONOR SUPPLIED RELIEF GRAINS AND FOOD STUFFS HAS UNDERSCORED THE NEED FOR VIGILANCE AND PREVENTIVE ACTION IN CERTAIN AREAS.

2. ONE AREA OF SPECIAL CONCERN IS THE PROPER CONSTRUCTION OF FOOD STORAGE FACILITIES FUNDED BY AID. SOME OF THESE STRUCTURES HAVE ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED BUT OTHERS REMAIN IN VARIOUS STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION. RESPONSIBLE FIELD PERSONNEL SHOULD BE ALERT TO THE POSSIBILITIES OF STRUCTURE REDESIGN, WHERE POSSIBLE, APPROPRIATE MODIFICATION OF COMPLETED STRUCTURES, WHERE NECESSARY, AND FUTURE DESIGN CONSIDERATION, WHERE APPLICABLE.

3. TO MAINTAIN A SATISFACTORY LEVEL OF SANITATION AND REDUCTION IN FOOD SPOILAGE AND WASTE THROUGH THE APPLICATION OF GOOD FOOD STORAGE PRACTICES INVOLVES THE COORDINATION OF A NUMBER OF INFLUENCING FACTORS. THE MANNER IN WHICH THE BUILDING IS CONSTRUCTED PLAYS AN IMPORTANT PART IN DETERMINING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF AN OVERALL FOOD SANITATION PROGRAM.

4. ALL WAREHOUSING OR STORAGE FACILITIES WHICH MAY BE USED FOR FOOD OR COMMODITIES STORAGE SHOULD BE DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED TO CREATE ENVIRONMENTS WHICH ARE NOT CONDUCTIVE TO INFECTION BY RODENTS AND MICRO-ORGANISM DEVELOPMENT OR TO CONTAMINATION BY BIRDS. AN ADEQUATE FOOD STORAGE CONSTRUCTION DESIGN MUST BE DEVELOPED ALONG PREVENTIVE LINES IF DESIRED MEASURES OF SUCCESS IS TO BE ACHIEVED. STORAGE STRUCTURE MUST BE PLANNED TO CONTROL ALL FACTORS THAT MAY INFLUENCE THE SANITATION OF A GIVEN OPERATION.

5. EXAMPLES OF CRITICAL AREAS WOULD INCLUDE RAW INGREDIENT FOOD STORAGE FACILITIES, ALL AREAS IN WHICH PRODUCTS ARE BEING PROCESSED OR TRANSFERRED, AND AREAS WHERE FOOD PRODUCTS ARE BEING STORED. ALSO CON-

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SIDERED CRITICAL WOULD BE AREAS WHERE PACKAGING AND LOADING OPERATIONS ARE TAKING PLACE, INCLUDING POINTS WHERE PACKAGING SUPPLIES ARE STORED.

6. THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ARE TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE DESIGN OF A WAREHOUSE OR SILO:

- (A) ADEQUATE SPACE FOR THE INTENDED USE;
- (B) PROTECTION FROM RAIN AND SURFACE WATER;

- (C) GOOD VENTILATION;
- (D) GOOD LIGHTING, EITHER BY ARTIFICIAL MEANS OR BY WINDOWS;
- (E) WINDOWS THAT PREVENT THE ENTRY OF VERMIN;
- (F) DOORS THAT FIT CLOSELY ENOUGH TO PREVENT THE ENTRY OF RODENTS, BIRDS, AND OTHER VERMIN (TO STOP RODENTS FROM ENTERING A BUILDING, THE OPENINGS MUST NOT BE LARGER THAN 1/4 INCH FOR MICE OR 1/2 INCH FOR RATS). (THE 1/4 INCH OPENING WILL NOT BE OF VALUE IN PREVENTING THE ENTRY OF INSECTS. SMALL MESH WIRE IS REQUIRED TO KEEP OUT INSECTS AND EVEN THEN IT MAY NOT BE COMPLETELY SUCCESSFUL).
- (G) NO HOLES IN THE OUTER WALLS THAT WOULD PREVENT THE ENTRY OF VERMIN;
- (H) CONCRETE FLOORS;
- (I) WINDOWS, DOORS, VENTILATORS THAT CAN BE CLOSED TIGHTLY FOR FUMIGATION.

7. ANALYSIS OF STRESSES AND REVIEW OF CONSTRUCTION DETAILS BY REDSO ENGINEERING PERSONNEL SHOULD BE REQUESTED CONCERNING DESIGNS AND PLACEMENT OF NEW INSTALLATIONS IN INSTANCES WHERE IT IS SUSPECTED THAT CHANGES IN DESIGN ARE NEEDED OR REQUIRED TO REDUCE INCIDENCE OF CONTAMINATION OR INFESTATION IN THE STORED PRODUCTS.

8. IT IS REQUESTED THAT APPROPRIATE FIELD PERSONNEL BE CONSCIOUS OF THESE POTENTIAL PROBLEMS AND CLOSELY MONITOR ON-GOING AND FUTURE CONSTRUCTION OF STORAGE FACILITIES TO ENSURE THEIR ADEQUACY IN THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF DONATED FOODSTUFFS. KISSINGER

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